



DECLARATION

6th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change
Realizing our Green Future: The Road to Low Emissions
June 23 and July 5, 2022 | Virtual Sessions

We, parliamentarians from 25 countries¹ of the Americas and the Caribbean, met virtually on June 23 and July 5, 2022, with the support of the House of Assembly of Dominica and the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala, for the 6th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change, titled *Realizing our Green Future: The Road to Low Emissions*.

Given that net anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions have [increased since 2010](#) in all major sectors, and that unsustainable inequitable development models are increasing the exposure of ecosystems and humans to climate hazards it is necessary to increase the ambition of inclusive climate action and bolster efforts to achieve the goals set out in the Paris Agreement.

The Gathering allowed participants to hold fruitful exchanges, which included dialogues with parliamentary staff, representatives of civil society and youth organizations, and subject-matter experts to analyze legislative initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, particularly in the sectors with the highest emissions: energy, transportation, and agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU).

Furthermore, taking into consideration the [mandate](#) adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the IX Summit of the Americas to promote parliamentary participation as an integral part of the Summits of the Americas process through ParlAmericas, we incorporated within the Gathering's themes the commitments of the mandates [Accelerating the Clean, Sustainable, Renewable and Just Energy Transition](#) and [Our Sustainable Green Future](#).

Taking into account the above and,

Recognizing

1. That as a result of an increase in GHG emissions, in particular from the unabated burning of fossil fuels due to human activity, climate change, which includes extreme natural hazards of increasing frequency and intensity, has caused adverse impacts on nature and people, disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable communities and systems.
2. That as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change points out, despite significant progress on climate action and increased commitment from the countries of the world, current levels of climate

¹ Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay.



ambition will not be sufficient to limit the global average temperature to well below 2°C, the central objective of the Paris Agreement.

3. That given the increasing severity of the climate crisis and the systemic risk it generates, it is necessary to design comprehensive and multisectoral climate policies and actions that consider scientific evidence and increase the viability and effectiveness of adaptation and mitigation strategies in multiple sectors.
4. That according to the [Sixth Assessment Report](#) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions across the energy sector requires major transitions, including the substantial reduction and overall divestment of fossil fuels; the increase use of renewable energy sources such as on onshore and offshore wind energy, solar, bioenergy, geothermal energy, hydroelectricity and other energies with low carbon emissions; and the improvement of energy efficiency and conservation.
5. That according to [International Renewable Energy Agency \(IRENA\)](#), women represent only 32% of the workforce in the renewable energy sector, therefore, the design of strategies for a just and inclusive energy transition must consider gender and intersectional approaches to foster women's participation in the green economy and facilitate their access to job opportunities in sustainable sectors.
6. That achieving [target 5a of the Sustainable Development Goals](#) requires laws and policies that seek [to remove the obstacles](#) faced by women producers and entrepreneurs in agri-food systems, including access to and control over land and natural resources, access to financial services and markets, offers of formal contracts with benefits, access to social protection and employment services, and the constraints that discriminatory practices and rules place on their ability to make strategic decisions.
7. That according to the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(FAO\)](#), the combination of intensified agricultural production processes and the indiscriminate clear-cutting of forests to meet the ever-increasing demand for food and other agricultural goods have led to the progressive degradation of the environment and are contributing to the climate crisis, a fact that makes it imperative to implement alternative climate-smart and gender-sensitive agricultural models to improve food security levels, restore degraded lands and soil health, and build socially inclusive and sustainable economies supported by promoting women's access to land ownership.
8. That as noted in the [Fifth](#) and [Sixth Assessment Reports](#) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, if ambitious and sustained mitigation policies are not implemented, greenhouse gas emissions generated by the transportation sector could increase at a faster rate than those of other sectors due to the strong link between transport emissions and GDP growth and urbanization, which makes it necessary to implement systemic changes to reduce the demand for traditional transportation services and strengthen sustainable transport models such as electromobility and improved public transit.
9. That mobility patterns differ between men and women due to gender-based inequalities that affect transportation use, access and needs, related for example to additional care tasks that most women



assume as well as obstacles associated with lower levels of economic autonomy and greater risks of facing violence and crime.

10. That there are international and regional agreements and mechanisms to guide climate action and direct efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions such as the [Paris Agreement](#), the [2030 Sustainable Development Agenda](#), the [Escazú Agreement](#), the [Sendai Framework](#), the [United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification](#), the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#), the [Glasgow Climate Pact](#), as well as the various [outcomes from COP26](#).
11. That good climate governance requires linking state and non-state actors such as civil society organizations, women, youth, persons with disabilities, workers, Indigenous peoples and local communities as well as the private sector, to determine in a concerted manner, actions to tackle the climate crisis and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in observance of human rights and taking into account equity, gender equality, the eradication of poverty, as well as the differential impacts of how climate change affects certain populations.
12. That, taking into account that most greenhouse gas emissions have historically originated in developed countries and that, consequently, the countries least responsible for contributing to climate change are being disproportionately affected by its impacts, it is necessary that the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities are respected and recognized.

We commit to:

1. Promote the adoption of policies that favour a just transition to low-emission energy systems, through measures aimed at strengthening clean energy generation, promoting energy efficiency, bolstering efforts to gradually phasedown the unabated coal power and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, re-directing investment efforts to inclusive approaches that ensure the provision of clean energy services to vulnerable populations that have historically suffered from deficiencies in access to electricity grids, in accordance with the [Glasgow Climate Pact](#).
2. Increase and facilitate the representation of women in decent, quality jobs in the renewable energy sector through measures that include, among others, the strengthening of parental leave models, the improvement of women's access to public transport systems, the promotion of the education of women and girls in STEM careers and in capacity building programs that include scholarships.
3. Develop legislative initiatives that include tax incentives to promote the use of zero-emission light, medium and heavy vehicles by ensuring their affordability, as well as support and monitor the necessary investments in charging and decarbonization infrastructure for electricity generation, ensuring that legislation and related public policies are designed equitably, in conjunction with traditionally marginalized groups, and do not exacerbate inequalities.
4. Promote budget debates to include investment items in sustainable public transit and [active modes of transport](#) that include the necessary infrastructure, so as to ensure that citizens have access to safe, reliable, affordable, connected and accessible mobility whose design meaningfully and systematically takes into account gender considerations that address the differentiated needs of women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly.



5. Promote the incorporation of gender and intersectional approaches in the budgeting and financing of climate action and the energy transition in a way that responds to principles of equity and sustainability and considers the particularities related to energy use and demand, means of transport and technology, as well as consumption patterns.
6. Implement measures to reduce the environmental footprint of our parliaments taking as a reference ParlAmericas' [Guide on Green Parliaments](#), which includes actions such as establishing an inventory of parliamentary emissions, reducing waste created by parliament, reducing energy and water consumption, and promoting more sustainable forms of transport, among other actions.
7. Promote the adoption and implementation of the [Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use](#) which among its commitments establishes the need to conserve forests and accelerate their restoration, redesign agricultural policies and programs to incentivize sustainable agricultural models that reduce carbon and methane emissions, promote food security, build resilience and improve rural livelihoods and smallholder family farming, in compliance with the rights and traditional knowledge of Indigenous peoples, farmers and local communities, in accordance with national legislation and other international instruments.
8. Advocate so that, in compliance with the [agreements](#) reached in the framework of the 66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, gender approaches are incorporated in a cross-cutting manner in the development, review and implementation of policies, laws and programs on climate change adaptation and mitigation, particularly with regard to the sustainable management of natural resources, seeking to ensure women's equal access to agricultural technologies, technical assistance, productive resources, security of possession and control of land and access to basic services.
9. Promote spaces for youth, especially young women and girls, to participate substantively in decision-making to address the effects of climate change and environmental protection.

Adopted on July 5, 2022